



**USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service**  
**622 West 7<sup>th</sup> Street , Dalhart, Texas 79022**

**February 14, 2005**

Dear Farm Operator/Owner:

You are invited to an information meeting on the Conservation Security Program (CSP). CSP is the new conservation program authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill to support ongoing stewardship on privately owned agricultural lands. Program participation is voluntary.

**Carrizo Watershed** has been selected as one of 18 watersheds eligible for the new Conservation Security Program (CSP) in 2004. This area covers a portion of Dallam and Hartley Counties in Texas and Union and Colfax Counties in New Mexico. The watershed area includes 135,131 acres of cropland and 395,686 acres of rangeland that may be eligible for CSP.

**Sign-up for the CSP will be in March 2005** at your local NRCS field office. Information meetings will be held in each county prior to the signup. At the meeting NRCS will explain producer eligibility, land eligibility, minimum requirements, and potential payment options under CSP. We encourage you to attend one of the meetings prior to our official signup period:

Feb. 17th (Thursday)	11:30 AM	Firehouse	Sedan, New Mexico
March 9 <sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)	10:30 AM	Senior Citizens Center	Dalhart, Texas

CSP identifies and rewards farmers who currently maintain high standards of soil and water conservation on their lands. Participating farms are expected to be using good soil quality practices (crop rotations, cover crops, reduced tillage, prescribed grazing) and good water quality practices (conservation tillage, terraces, grassed waterways, managed livestock access to streams, nutrient and pest management, and irrigation water management) on cropland and pastureland. Qualifying farms are eligible for financial and technical assistance to maintain and enhance their conservation efforts.

Join us at one of the information sessions & learn if the Conservation Security Program has a place in your farming operation.

Sincerely,

David M. Guest  
District Conservationist  
USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Dalhart, Texas